IDAHO NEWS RELEASE



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IDAHO CATTLE NUMBERS UP ONE-HALF PERCENT

Idaho cattle and calf inventory totaled 2.01 million head as of January 1, 2004, according to the Idaho Agricultural Statistics Service. This was up one-half percent from the 2.00 million head in the State on January 1, 2003. There were 488,000 beef cows, down slightly, and 412,000 milk cows, up 6 percent, on hand at the beginning of the year. The number of beef replacement heifers, at 95,000, was up 6 percent and heifers for milk cow replacement at 180,000, were down 5 percent. Statewide, there were 350,000 steers over 500 pounds, 35,000 bulls over 500 pounds and 245,000 calves under 500 pounds on January 1. The 2003 calf crop totaled 880,000 head, up 2 percent from the calf crop of 2002.

All cattle and calves in the United States as of January 1, 2004, totaled 94.9 million head, 1 percent below the 96.1 million on January 1, 2003. All cows and heifers that have calved, at 41.9 million, were down 1 percent from the 42.1 million on January 1, 2003. Beef cows, at 32.86 million, were down slightly from January 1, 2003. Milk cows, at 8.99 million, were down 2 percent from January 1, 2003. All heifers, 500 pounds and over, at 19.3 million, were down 1 percent. Beef replacement heifers, at 5.52 million head, were down 2 percent and milk replacement heifers, at 4.02 million head were down 2 percent. Steers weighing over 500 pounds totaled 16.3 million, down 2 percent from a year ago. The 2003 calf crop estimated at 37.9 million head, was down 1 percent from 2002. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 27.7 million, down 1 percent from 2002.

For More Information Call: (208) 334-1507.